

Message Text

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63

ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 CU-04 SS-15 NASA-04 SCI-06 USIA-12 CPR-02 SY-10

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DRAFTED BY AF/ C: JHALLDIGGS: LS

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APPROVED BY AF/ C: HJCOHEN

CU/ AF - MR. O' BRIEN (SUBS)

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R 251823 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123584

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OEXC, CASC, MA, US

SUBJ: REPPAS CASE AND FOREIGN MINISTER RATSIRAKA' S VISIT

REF: TANANARIVE 840

1. IN EFFORT HELP MAKE FONMIN RATSIRAKA' S VISIT
SUCCESSFUL DEPT AND AMBASSADOR RAHARIJAONA BELIEVE IT
ADVISABLE ELIMINATE SAN FRANCISCO LEG OF TRIP DUE TO
NATURE PUBLICITY AND ATTITUDE SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS
COMMUNITY RE REPPAS CASE.

2. REVISED SCHEDULE FOLLOWING CAPE KENNEDY VISIT JULY 27
AS FOLLOWS:

SAT. JULY 28 - OBSERVE CATTLE PRODUCTION NORTHERN
FLORIDA

SUN. JULY 29- MON. JULY 30 - FLY TO LOUISIANA AND VISIT
NEW ORLEANS AND OBSERVE RICE CULTIVATION PROJECTS IN
SOUTHERN LOUISIANA

TUES. JULY 31 - FLY TO CALIFORNIA AND VISIT IMPERIAL
VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT
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WED. AUG. A - DEPART LOS ANGELES FOR PARIS.
RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE CHANGED ACCORDINGLY.

3. IN VIEW INCREASING GENERAL PUBLICITY BEING GIVEN
REPPAS CASE, EMBASSY SHOULD INDICATE TO GOMR EFFECT OF
MAKING SOME GESTURE NOW TO DIFFUSE THIS ISSUE BEFORE IT
CLOUDS FONMIN VISIT.

4. DEPT WOULD LIKE EMBASSY TO GET READING ON GOMR LAW
WITH RESPECT TO PLEA BARGAINING. FYI IF REPPAS WERE TO
PLEAD GUILTY OR QUOTE NO CONTEST UNQUOTE TO SOME OR
ALL OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM, COULD HE THEN BE DEPORTED
OR RECEIVE A SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED PRISON SENTENCE TO
WHICH THE TIME ALREADY SERVED COULD BE CREDITED? DEPT
UNDERSTANDS FROM REPPAS' BROTHER- IN- LAW BRADFORD JEFFRIES
THAT REPPAS MIGHT AGREE TO THIS PLEA. END FYI ROGERS

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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